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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 82  
By Montgomery

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend First Lieutenant Brian S. McCord for meritorious service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in our Nation's armed forces; Lieutenant Brian S. McCord is one such patriot who has served with courage and gallantry and deserves proper recognition for heroism both in the United States Army Reserve and in society today; and

WHEREAS, called to active duty in July 2000, Lieutenant McCord dutifully left his normal walk of life to serve with great bravery and ability in Bosnia-Herzegovina as an S-1 Personnel Officer in the CIMIC Battalion; he has performed his duties with the utmost skill, dedication and professionalism; his service can only be categorized as outstanding; and

WHEREAS, during almost a decade as a citizen soldier, including nearly eight years as a commissioned officer, Lieutenant McCord has earned the respect and admiration of his peers,

superior officers, and the men under his command for the quality of his work and his dedication to his country and its armed forces; and

WHEREAS, the excellence of Lieutenant McCord's service is evidenced by his numerous decorations, service medals, and badges, including the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" Device, National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and NATO Medal; and

WHEREAS, in civilian life, Lieutenant McCord has additionally earned the utmost admiration and respect of his peers and students in his occupation as a teacher and baseball coach at Seymour High School; his love of, and enthusiasm for, his job and helping young people is obvious to all who have seen him in a classroom or on a baseball diamond; and

WHEREAS, Lieutenant McCord's commitment to education is displayed by his choice of career and his own educational experiences; he earned an associate's degree from Martin Methodist Junior College and bachelor's degrees from both the University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, also committed to improving himself as a soldier, Lieutenant McCord has completed several courses of advance military training, including the Army Medical Department Officer Branch Qualification Course, Civil Affairs Officer Advance Course, and Antiterrorism/Force Protection Level II; and

WHEREAS, upon recently returning from his deployment, Lieutenant McCord was reunited with his beautiful wife, the former Kristi Ward; in their young marriage, they already share tremendous love and companionship, and she is a pillar of strength and a source of much needed support during her husband's overseas tour; and

WHEREAS, possessing estimable accomplishments and displaying remarkable fortitude in all of his endeavors, Lieutenant McCord is an excellent role model for his fellow soldiers, the students and teachers of Seymour High School, and the people of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Lieutenant Brian S. McCord from Seymour for meritorious service in the United States Army Reserve, offer our thanks for a difficult job well done, and wish him every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.